

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13-19 and 23-27 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 24 are currently amended. Claims 4 and 5 are original. Claims 2-3, 7-8, 10-11, 25 and 26 were previously presented. Claim 1 is independent. Claim 27 is new. No new matter is added. Claims 13-23 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-5, 7, 10, 11, 13-18 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakai et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,831,512, "Nakai") in view of Hershey (U.S. Patent No. 5,544,077, "Hershey"). Claims 8 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakai in view of Hershey and further in view of Baker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,073,089, "Baker").

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that the Examiner indicated that claims 23, 24 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant adds new claim 27 to recite the limitations of claim 26 in independent form including all the limitations of previous base claim 1 as suggested by the Examiner.

Pursuant to telephonic interview by Attorney Carroll with the Examiner on 3/1/07, and to expedite prosecution, the undersigned has canceled claims 13-19 without prejudice and disclaimer.

Applicant amends independent claim 1 to include the limitations of now canceled claim 23. Applicant amends dependent claim 24 to correctly depend from independent claim 1. Thus, Applicant requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of amended independent claim 1. Claims 2-5, 7, 10, 11 and 25 depend on amended independent claims 1 and add further limitation thereto. Therefore, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of these claims, too. Claim 8 depends on amended independent claims 1, and adds further limitation thereto. Therefore, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of this claim also.

Application No. 09/954731
Amendment dated March 27, 2007
Office Action of Dated September 27, 2006

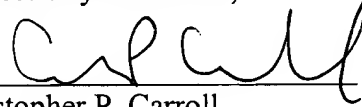
Docket No.: CDPC-P01-004

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes we have appropriately provided for fees due in connection with this submission. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. CDPC-P01-004 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 27, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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